

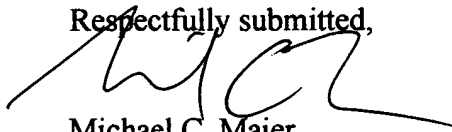
REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested. Applicant expresses its appreciation for the indication that claims 18-20 are allowable.

Claims 1-16, 18-20 remain pending in this application. Claims 17, 21-23 have been cancelled. Claims 1 and 12 have been amended. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the additional limitations recited in presently allowed claim 18. Claim 12 has been amended to overcome the rejections based on 35 USC 112.

It is believed that the amendments to the claims eliminates the prior art rejections and that all claims are now in condition for allowance and an early Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael C. Maier', is written over the typed name.

Michael C. Maier
Reg. No. 36,206

P.O. Box 938
2401 Cooper Street
Fort Scott, KS 66701
(620) 223-5500